

Docket No. 249157US90X CONT

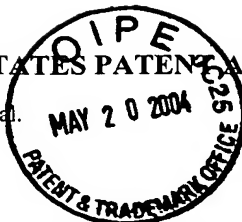
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kenji NISHI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/781,661

FILED: February 20, 2004

FOR: MASK EXCHANGING METHOD AND EXPOSURE APPARATUS



GAU: 2851

EXAMINER: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references cited on the attached International Search Report and Translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

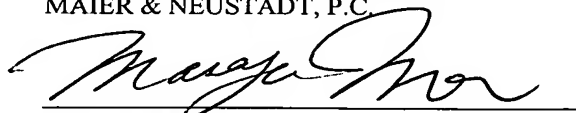
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

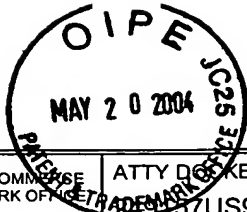
  
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|--|----|--|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Form PTO 1449<br>(Modified)  |    | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE |            | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>JCS157US90X CONT |                       | SERIAL NO.<br>10/781,661   |                               |
| LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  |    |  |            | APPLICANT<br>Kenji NISHI, et al.    |                       |  |                               |
|  |    |  |            | FILING DATE<br>February 20, 2004    |                       | GROUP<br>2851  |                               |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |    | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER   | DATE       | NAME                                | CLASS                 | SUB<br>CLASS   | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|  | AA | 4,924,258  | 05/08/1990 | Tsutsui                             |                       |  |                               |
|  | AB |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AC |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AD |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AE |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AF |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AG |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AH |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AI |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AJ |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AK |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AL |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AM |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AN |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  |    | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER   | DATE       | COUNTRY                             | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |  |                               |
|  | AO | 11-145048  | 05/28/1999 | Japan (w/ English Abstract)         |                       |  | x                             |
|  | AP | 8-293455   | 11/05/1996 | Japan (w/ English Abstract)         |                       |  | x                             |
|  | AQ | 11-307425  | 11/05/1999 | Japan (w/ English Abstract)         |                       |  | x                             |
|  | AR | 1052547 A2   | 11/15/2000 | Europe                              |                       |  |                               |
|  | AS | 2-142112   | 05/31/1990 | Japan (w/ English Abstract)         |                       |  | x                             |
|  | AT |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AU |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AV |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |    |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AW |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AX |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AY |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |
|  | AZ |  |            |                                     |                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached |                               |
| Examiner   |    |  |            |                                     | Date Considered       |  |                               |
| *Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |    |  |            |                                     |                       |  |                               |